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EXAMINER

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ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2625

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/957,394	PATTON, RONNIE NEIL	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Benjamin O. Dulaney	2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 August 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13, 15-18, 20, 21, 24-29, 32-37, 39-47 and 50-66 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13, 15-18, 20, 21, 24-29, 32-37, 39-47 and 50-65 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 66 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 7/31/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In regards to Applicant's argument for claim 1 that Spence does not teach storing the actual settings to be adjusted, Examiner disagrees. Applicant suggests that Spence only teaches storing the changes to the settings and not the settings themselves, however logic would dictate that the system of Spence cannot make changes to values that it does not know. Regardless, Spence specifically refers to saving "recommended values ... based on changes", which reads directly on the feature in question (Column 26, lines 21-29).

In regards to Applicant's argument for claim 1 that Spence does not teach characterizing printing mediums, Examiner disagrees. The "Configure Color Calibration Manager" as defined in Spence column 29, lines 6-23, stores data involving the print medium (if paper is white no correction is needed, if paper is something else, as in column 35, table 1, the exact amount of color in the medium is adjusted for) and therefore reads on the feature in question.

In regards to Applicant's argument for claim 18 that Michel does not teach a second setting of the printing device after receiving first feedback, Examiner disagrees. Michel discloses an iterative system that uses the feedback of the previous printing loop to determine the settings for the current printing loop. The loop specifically defined by

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Figures 3a-3b, items 301 – 319, can go through multiple occurrences of setting, calibrate, printing and feedback. Therefore Michel teaches the “second setting”.

In regards to Applicant’s argument for claim 1 that Michel does not teach a first calibration through the use of a trigger value, Examiner disagrees. Applicant defines “trigger value” in paragraph 32 of the specification to be defined as an “initial value”. It is inherent in Michel that the loop starts with an initial value and therefore a trigger value.

In regards to Applicant’s argument for claim 37 that Spence does not teach a media identifier, Examiner disagrees. In column 35, lines 29-62, Spence clearly identifies the media, or “paper”, with a color value.

In regards to Applicant’s argument for claim 63 that Spence does not teach characterizing printing media having different colors, Examiner disagrees. In column 35, lines 29-62, Spence clearly identifies the media, or “paper”, with a color value.

Applicant’s arguments, filed 7/31/2006 with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 64 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of U.S. patent 6,215,562 by Michel et al.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

- 1) Claims 1-3, 9-15, 18, 20, 21, 28-35, 37, 39, 40, 46-53, 56, 57, 63, and 64 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Michel et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,215,562) in view of Spence (U.S. Patent Number 5,333,069).
- 2) Regarding claim 1, Michel discloses a printing system (see Fig. 4) comprising a printing device for printing on a printing medium in accordance with a plurality of adjustable settings (output 60, column 7, lines 21-65, see Figs. 3A and 3B), an interface (operator panel 20, column 7, lines 51-65), and a controller for controlling the adjustable settings of the printing device responsive to inputs from the interface (printer/copier engine 10, column 7, lines 51-65), the controller having an on line mode wherein the printing device prints while the adjustable settings are unchanging, and an off line mode for calibration of the adjustable settings for the printing medium (column 7, lines 21-65, wherein the Power Saver Mode is used for setting a calibration, as seen in Fig. 3A), wherein the controller is adapted to, while in the off line mode (column 7, lines 21-65, see Fig. 3A), identify a plurality of first calibration values for a first setting of the adjustable settings through derivation of at least one trigger value (steps 305-308, column 7, lines 21-50), where the derivation includes incrementing the trigger value by at least a preset or user-defined incremental value, iteratively set the first setting of the printing device to each of the first calibration values, where the printing device, after each iteration, prints a corresponding sample image according to the first setting (column 4, lines 1-27, and column 7, lines 21-50, steps 308, 312, 314 and 316), and

receive a first feedback input that identifies one of the first calibration values as preferred for the first setting (column 7, lines 21-50, steps 307, 311, 315, and 317).

However, Michel fails to expressly disclose of printing on a plurality of printing media in accordance with a plurality of adjustable settings, having a memory to store multiple configurations of the adjustable settings, each configuration of the adjustable settings corresponding to a different printing medium, whereby the off line mode characterizes one or more of the priming media by determining one or more of the corresponding configurations of the adjustable settings.

Spence discloses a printing system (see Figs. 1, and 7-16) comprising a printing device for printing on a plurality of printing media in accordance with a plurality of adjustable settings (column 15, line 3-column 16, line 31), a memory to store multiple configurations of the adjustable settings, each configuration of the adjustable settings corresponding to a different printing medium (column 26, lines 11-41, column 27, lines 22-38, and column 29, lines 6-23), an interface (column 25, line 42-column 26, line 41), and a controller for controlling the adjustable settings of the printing device responsive to inputs from the interface (column 25, line 42-column 26, line 41, see Figs. 7-16), and the controller having a mode for characterizing one or more of the printing media by determining one or more of the corresponding configurations of the adjustable settings (column 26, lines 11-41, column 27, lines 22-38, and column 29, lines 6-23).

Michel & Spence are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor, being systems that calibrate a printing system. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to include settings stored in a

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memory that correspond to different printing mediums, as taught by Spence, in the system of Michel. The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been that Michel's system would be able to match images produced in various printing systems that use various media, as recognized by Spence in column 1, line 33-column column 3, line 8. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of Spence with the system of Michel to obtain the invention as specified in claim 1.

3) Regarding claim 2, Michel and Spence disclose the system discussed in claim 1 above, and Michel further teaches that the controller is further adapted to identify a plurality of second calibration values for a second setting of the adjustable settings after receiving the first feedback input (column 7, line 21-column 8, line 14), iteratively set the second setting of the printing device to each of the second calibration values, where the printing device, after each iteration, prints a corresponding sample image according to the second setting (column 7, line 21-column 8, line 14), and receive a second feedback input that identifies one of the second calibration values as preferred for the second setting (column 7, line 21-column 8, line 14).

4) Regarding claim 3, Michel and Spence disclose the system discussed above in claim 1, and Michel further teaches that the controller is further adapted to control the printing device to also print an indicium on each sample corresponding to the calibration value of the first setting being used, and interpret the feedback input based on the indicium (see Figs. 1 and 2).

- 5) Regarding claim 9, Michel and Spence disclose the system discussed above in claim 1, and Michel further teaches that the second calibration values are preset for the second setting (column 5, lines 21-60, and column 7, line 21-column 8, line 14).
- 6) Regarding claim 10, Michel and Spence disclose the system discussed above in claim 1, and Michel further teaches that the controller is further adapted to receive at least one trigger value regarding the first setting, wherein the first calibration values are derived from the trigger value (column 5, line 21-column 6, line 61).
- 7) Regarding claim 11, Michel and Spence disclose the system discussed above in claim 10, and Michel further teaches that the trigger value corresponds to an initial value (column 5, line 21-column 6, line 61).
- 8) Regarding claim 12, Michel and Spence disclose the system discussed above in claim 11, and Michel further teaches that the first calibration values are derived from an increment and the initial value (column 5, line 21-column 6, line 61).
- 9) Regarding claim 13, Michel and Spence disclose the system discussed above in claim 11, and Michel further teaches that the increment has a preset value (column 5, line 21-column 6, line 61, and column 7, lines 1-65).
- 10) Regarding claim 15, Michel and Spence disclose the system discussed above in claim 1, and Michel further teaches that the controller is adapted to store in the memory a preferred one of the first calibration values in a memory (column 7, line 51-column 8, line 14).
- 11) Regarding claim 18, Michel discloses an article comprising a storage medium, the storage medium having instructions stored thereon (being inherent in the printer

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seen in Figs. 4 and 5, column 7, lines 51-column 8, line 14), wherein when the instructions are executed by at least one device, they result in placing a printing device in an off line media characterization mode (column 7, lines 21-65, wherein the Power Saver Mode is used for setting a calibration, as seen in Fig. 3A), identifying a plurality of first calibration values for the first setting of the printing device (column 7, lines 21-65), iteratively setting the setting of the printing device according to each of the first calibration values, where the printing device, after each iteration, prints a corresponding sample image according to the first setting (column 7, line 21-column 8, line 14), and receiving a first feedback input that identifies one of the first calibration values as preferred for the first setting (column 7, line 21-column 8, line 14), identifying a plurality of second calibration values for a second setting of the printing device after receiving the first feedback input (column 7, line 21-column 8, line 14), iteratively setting the second setting of the printing device according to each of the second calibration values, where the printing device, after each iteration, prints a corresponding sample image according to the second setting (column 7, line 21-column 8, line 14), and receiving a second feedback input that identifies one of the second calibration values as preferred for the second setting (column 7, line 21-column 8, line 14).

However, Michel fails to expressly disclose of storing multiple sets of printer settings in a memory, with each set characterizing a different printing medium, where a printing device prints on the printing media according to the corresponding sets of the printer settings, and placing the printing device in an off line media characterization mode for characterizing at least another printing medium.

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Spence discloses an article comprising a storage medium, the storage medium having instructions stored thereon (column 25, lines 2-47), wherein when the instructions are executed by at least one device (see Figs. 1, and 7-16), they result in storing multiple sets of printer settings in a memory (column 26, lines 11-41, column 27, lines 22-38, and column 29, lines 6-23), with each set characterizing a different printing medium, where a printing device prints on the printing media according to the corresponding sets of the printer settings, and placing the printing device in an off line media characterization mode for characterizing at least another printing medium (column 26, lines 11-41, column 27, lines 22-38, and column 29, lines 6-23).

Michel & Spence are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor, being systems that calibrate a printing system. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to include settings stored in a memory that correspond to different printing mediums, as taught by Spence, in the system of Michel. The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been that Michel's system would be able to match images produced in various printing systems that use various media, as recognized by Spence in column 1, line 33-column column 3, line 8. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of Spence with the system of Michel to obtain the invention as specified in claim 18.

12) Regarding claim 20, Michel and Spence disclose the article discussed above in claim 18, and Michel further teaches that all the sample images are derived from a single electronic image file (column 5, line 21-column 6, line 61).

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13) Regarding claim 21, Michel and Spence disclose the article discussed above in claim 18, and Michel further teaches of printing, along with each sample image, an indicium corresponding to the first calibration value of the first setting in use while printing the sample image (see Figs. 1 and 2).

14) Regarding claim 28, Michel and Spence disclose the article discussed above in claim 37, and Michel further teaches that the first calibration values are preset for the first setting (column 5, line 21-column 6, line 61).

15) Regarding claim 29, Michel and Spence disclose the article discussed above in claim 18, and Michel further teaches of receiving at least one trigger value regarding the first setting, wherein the first calibration values are derived from the trigger value, where the derivation includes incrementing the trigger value by at least a preset or user-defined increment value (column 5, line 21-column 6, line 61; column 7, lines 1-50).

16) Regarding claim 32, Michel and Spence disclose the article discussed above in claim 31, and Michel further teaches that the first calibration values are derived from an increment and the initial value (column 5, line 21-column 6, line 61).

17) Regarding claim 33, Michel and Spence disclose the article discussed above in claim 31, and Michel further teaches that the increment has a preset value (column 5, line 21-column 6, line 61, and column 7, lines 1-50).

18) Regarding claim 34, Michel and Spence disclose the article discussed above in claim 31, and Michel further teaches of setting a value for the increment (column 5, line 21-column 6, line 61, and column 7, lines 1-50).

19) Regarding claim 35, Michel and Spence disclose the article discussed above in claim 18, and Michel further teaches of storing a preferred one of the first calibration values in a memory (column 7, line 51-column 8, line 15).

20) Regarding claim 37, Michel discloses a method comprising placing a printing device in an off line media characterization mode for characterizing a first printing medium (column 7, lines 21-65, wherein the Power Saver Mode is used for setting a calibration, as seen in Fig. 3A), identifying a plurality of first calibration values for the first setting of the printing device (column 7, lines 21-65), iteratively setting the setting of the printing device according to each of the first calibration values, where the printing device, after each iteration, prints a corresponding sample image according to the first setting (column 7, line 21-column 8, line 14), and receiving a first feedback input that identifies one of the first calibration values as preferred for the first setting (column 7, line 21-column 8, line 14), identifying a plurality of second calibration values for a second setting of the printing device after receiving the first feedback input (column 7, line 21-column 8, line 14), iteratively setting the second setting of the printing device according to each of the second calibration values, where the printing device, after each iteration, prints a corresponding sample image according to the second setting (column 7, line 21-column 8, line 14), and receiving a second feedback input that identifies one of the second calibration values as preferred for the second setting (column 7, line 21-column 8, line 14).

However, Michel fails to expressly disclose of receiving a media identifier that uniquely identifies the first printing medium, and compiling a data file in a memory that

includes the first and second feedback inputs and the media identifier, where the media identifier indicates that the first and second feedback inputs correspond to the first printing medium.

Spence discloses a method comprising placing a printing device in a media characterization mode for characterizing a first printing medium (see Figs. 1, and 7-16), receiving a media identifier that uniquely identifies the first printing medium (column 26, lines 11-41, column 27, lines 22-38, and column 29, lines 6-23), and compiling a data file in a memory that includes the first and second feedback inputs and the media identifier (column 26, lines 11-41, column 27, lines 22-38, and column 29, lines 6-23), where the media identifier indicates that the first and second feedback inputs correspond to the first printing medium (column 26, lines 11-41, column 27, lines 22-38, and column 29, lines 6-23).

Michel & Spence are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor, being systems that calibrate a printing system. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to include settings stored in a memory that correspond to different printing mediums, as taught by Spence, in the system of Michel. The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been that Michel's system would be able to match images produced in various printing systems that use various media, as recognized by Spence in column 1, line 33-column 3, line 8. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of Spence with the system of Michel to obtain the invention as specified in claim 37.

21) Regarding claim 39, Michel and Spence disclose the method discussed above in claim 37, and Michel further teaches that all the sample images are derived from a single electronic image file (column 5, line 21-column 6, line 61).

22) Regarding claim 40, Michel and Spence disclose the method discussed above in claim 37, and Michel further teaches of printing, along with each sample image, an indicium corresponding to the first calibration value of the first setting in use while printing the sample image (see Figs. 1 and 2).

23) Regarding claim 46, Michel and Spence disclose the method discussed above in claim 37, and Michel further teaches that the first calibration values are preset for the first setting (column 5, line 21-column 6, line 61).

24) Regarding claim 47, Michel and Spence disclose the method discussed above in claim 37, and Michel further teaches of receiving at least one trigger value regarding the first setting, wherein the first calibration values are derived from the trigger value, where the derivation includes incrementing the trigger value by at least a preset or user-defined increment value (column 5, line 21-column 6, line 61; column 7, lines 1-50).

25) Regarding claim 50, Michel and Spence disclose the method discussed above in claim 49, and Michel further teaches that the first calibration values are derived from an increment and the initial value (column 5, line 21-column 6, line 61).

26) Regarding claim 51, Michel and Spence disclose the method discussed above in claim 49, and Michel further teaches that the increment has a preset value (column 5, line 21-column 6, line 61, and column 7, lines 1-50).

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27) Regarding claim 52, Michel and Spence disclose the method discussed above an claim 49, and Michel further teaches of setting a value for the increment (column 5, line 21-column 6, line 61, and column 7, lines 1-50).

28) Regarding claim 53, Michel and Spence disclose the method discussed above m claim 37, and Michel further teaches of storing a preferred one of the first calibration values in a memory (column 7, line 51-column 8, line 15).

29) Regarding claim 56, Michel discloses a method comprising selecting a first setting of a printing device for calibration with a printing medium, feeding a plurality of sheets of the printing medium to the printing device for printing a plurality of sample images (column 7, line 21-column 8, line 14), visually inspecting the sample images corresponding to the first setting to select one of them as the preferred one (column 7, line 21-column 8, line 14), entering in a memory a first feedback input to indicate the preferred sample image (column 7, line 21-column 8, line 14), selecting a second setting of the printing device for calibration with the printing medium after the entering of the first feedback input into the memory (column 7, line 21-column 8, line 14), where the printing device prints a plurality of sample images according to the selection of the second setting (column 7, line 21-column 8, line 14), visually inspecting the sample images corresponding to the second setting to select one of them as the preferred sample image (column 7, line 21-column 8, line 14), and entering in a memory a second feedback input to indicate the preferred sample image (column 7, line 21-column 8, line 14).

However, Michel fails to expressly disclose of storing a media identifier that uniquely identifies the printer medium in the memory, where the media identifier indicates that the first and second feedback inputs correspond to the printing medium.

Spence discloses a method (see Figs. 1, and 7-16) comprising storing a media identifier that uniquely identifies the printer medium in the memory, where the media identifier indicates that the first and second feedback inputs correspond to the printing medium (column 26, lines 11-41, column 27, lines 22-38, column 29, lines 6-23, and column 35, lines 29-63).

Michel & Spence are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor, being systems that calibrate a printing system. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to include settings stored in a memory that correspond to different printing mediums, as taught by Spence, in the system of Michel. The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been that Michel's system would be able to match images produced in various printing systems that use various media, as recognized by Spence in column 1, line 33-column column 3, line 8. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of Spence with the system of Michel to obtain the invention as specified in claim 56.

30) Regarding claim 57, Michel and Spence disclose the method discussed above in claim 56, and Michel further teaches that each of the sample images includes an indicium, and the first and second feedback inputs identify the indicium (see Figs. 1 and 2).

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31) Regarding claim 63, Michel and Spence disclose the system discussed above in claim 1, and Spence further teaches that the controller characterizes printing media having different colors or transparencies (column 1, line 33-column 2, line 31, column 26, lines 11-41, column 27, lines 22-38, column 29, lines 6-23, and column 35, lines 29-63).

Michel & Spence are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor, being systems that calibrate a printing system. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to include settings stored in a memory that correspond to different printing mediums, as taught by Spence, in the system of Michel. The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been that Michel's system would be able to match images produced in various printing systems that use various media, as recognized by Spence in column 1, line 33-column column 3, line 8. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of Spence with the system of Michel to obtain the invention as specified in claim 63.

32) Regarding claim 64, Michel and Spence disclose the system discussed above in claim 1, and Michel further teaches that the controller receives a trigger value from the interface (Column 5, lines 38-60), and where the trigger value is one of the first calibration values (Column 5, lines 38-60).

33) Regarding claim 65, Michel and Spence disclose the system discussed above in claim 1, and Michel further teaches that the controller is adapted to receive a sample value from the interface, where the sample value to identify a number of first calibration values to be derived by the controller (Column 5, lines 38-60).

33) Claims 4-6, 23-25, 41-43, and 58-60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Michel et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,215,562) in view of Spence (U.S. Patent Number 5,333,069), and further in view of Sawano (U.S. Patent Number 6,384,895).

Regarding claims 4-6, 23-25, 41-43, and 58-60, Michel and Spence disclose the system, article, and methods discussed above in claims 1, 18, 37, and 56, respectively, but fail to expressly disclose if the first setting is a temperature of a fuser, a print speed, or a set of color curves.

Sawano discloses a system that places a printing device in a media characterization mode for a first setting of the printing device (see Fig. 2), identifies a plurality of first calibration values for the first setting (column 5, line 50-column 6, line 67), sets the printing device according to one of the first calibration values and then printing a sample image using the printing device (see Fig. 2, column 6, line 9-67, and column 9, lines 8-37), and receives a first feedback input that identifies one of the first calibration values as preferred for the first setting (column 11, lines 11-67). Further, Sawano teaches that the first setting is a temperature of a fuser (see Fig. 2, column 13, line 66-column 14, line 20), a print speed (see Fig. 2, column 14, lines 34-67), or a set of color curves (see Fig. 2, and column 15, line 1-column 16, line 18).

Michel, Spence, & Sawano are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor, being systems that calibrate a printing device using a printed calibration pattern. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary

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skill in the art to use Sawano's method of calibrating within Michel and Spence's system. The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been that Michel and Spence's system would become more efficient, since an image would have increased gradation accuracy, as recognized by Sawano in column 2, lines 5-22. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine the features taught by Sawano with the system of Michel and Spence to obtain the invention as specified in claims 4-6, 23-25, 41-43, and 58-60.

34) Claims 7, 16, 17, 26, 36, 44, 54, 55, and 61 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Michel et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,215,562) in view of Spence (U.S. Patent Number 5,333,069), and further in view of Yamaguchi (U.S. Patent Number 6,788,431).

35) Regarding claims 7, 26, 44, and 61, Michel and Spence disclose the system, article, and methods discussed above in claims 1, 18, 37, and 56, respectively, but fail to expressly disclose if the first setting is a set of gamma curves.

Yamaguchi discloses a system that places a printing device in a media characterization mode for a first setting of the printing device (column 11, lines 1-15), identifies a plurality of first calibration values for the first setting (column 5, lines 66-column 6, line 13, and column 11, lines 1-37), sets the printing device according to one of the first calibration values and then printing a sample image using the printing device (column 8, line 59-column 9, line 7, and column 11, lines 1-63), and receives a first feedback input that identifies one of the first calibration values as preferred for the first

setting (column 11, line 26-column 12, line 24). Further, Yamaguchi teaches that the first setting is a set of gamma curves (column 11, lines 26-63).

Michel, Spence, & Yamaguchi are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor, being systems that calibrate a printing device using a printed calibration pattern. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use Yamaguchi's method of calibrating using gamma curves within Michel and Spence's system. The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been that Michel and Spence's system would become more efficient, since a simple calibration utilizes gamma curves when printing images on a photosensitive material, as recognized by Yamaguchi in columns 1, 2, and 11. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine the features taught by Yamaguchi with the system of Michel and Spence to obtain the invention as specified in claims 7, 26, 44, and 61.

36) Regarding claims 16, 17, 36, 54, and 55, Michel and Spence disclose the system, article, and method discussed above in claims 1, 35, and 53, respectively, but fail to expressly disclose of storing in the memory an identifier for the printing medium that the samples are printed on, whereby a bar code is scanned to read the identifier.

Yamaguchi discloses a system that places a printing device in a media characterization mode for a first setting of the printing device (column 11, lines 1-15), identifies a plurality of first calibration values for the first setting (column 5, lines 66-column 6, line 13, and column 11, lines 1-37), sets the printing device according to one of the first calibration values and then printing a sample image using the printing device (column 8, line 59-column 9, line 7, and column 11, lines 1-63), and receives a first

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feedback input that identifies one of the first calibration values as preferred for the first setting (column 11, line 26-column 12, line 24). Further, Yamaguchi teaches of storing in the memory an identifier for the printing medium that the samples are printed on (column 4, lines 30-39), whereby a bar code is scanned to read the identifier (column 4, lines 30-39).

Michel, Spence, & Yamaguchi are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor, being systems that calibrate a printing device using a printed calibration pattern. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use Yamaguchi's method of identifying calibration patterns within Michel and Spence's system. The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been that Michel and Spence's system would become more efficient, since a calibration pattern would easily be identified by using a bar code, as recognized by Yamaguchi in column 4, lines 30-34. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine the features taught by Yamaguchi with the system of Michel and Spence to obtain the invention as specified in claims 16, 17, 36, 54, and 55.

37) Claims 8, 27, 45, and 62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Michel et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,215,562) in view of Spence (U.S. Patent Number 5,333,069) in view of Housel (U.S. Patent Application Publication US2003/0164960).

Regarding claims 8, 27, 45, and 62, Michel and Spence disclose the system, article, and methods discussed above in claims 1, 18, 37, and 56, respectively, but fail to expressly disclose if the first setting is a set of white point data.

Housel discloses a system that places a printing device in a media characterization mode for a first setting of the printing device (see abstract), identifies a plurality of first calibration values for the first setting (paragraphs 0029-0031), sets the printing device according to one of the first calibration values and then printing a sample image using the printing device (paragraphs 0030-0033), and receives a first feedback input that identifies one of the first calibration values as preferred for the first setting (paragraphs 0032-0033). Further, Housel teaches that the first setting is a set of white point data (paragraphs 0031-0041, see Fig. 2).

Michel, Spence, & Housel are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor, being systems that calibrate a printing device using a printed calibration pattern. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use Housel's method of calibrating using white point data within Michel and Spence's system. The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been that Michel and Spence's system would ensure a consistent output calibration, as recognized by Housel in paragraphs 0031-0034. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine the features taught by Housel with the system of Michel and Spence to obtain the invention as specified in claims 8, 27, 45, and 62.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 66 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

In regards to claim 66 the prior art does not specifically teach the system of claim 65 where the sample value identifies a maximum first calibration value, where the controller ceases to increment the trigger value when one of the derived first calibration values is greater than or equal to the maximum first calibration value

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

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extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Benjamin O. Dulaney whose telephone number is (571) 272-2874. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (9am - 6pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Twyler Lamb can be reached on (571)272-7406. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



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